

THE OMAHA BEE.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING CO., PROPS. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

The new reform is a good thing. We need a little civility in the public service in Omaha.

The newly elected chancellor of the state university does not need a "testimonial" from Prof. Aughey.

The will of Bishop McMillen, of Iowa, bequeaths one-third of his fortune to Bishop O'Connor, of this state.

The efficient inefficiency of Mr. Hall was a sufficient ground for his removal. A hundred patrons of the Omaha post-office will endorse this position.

The people are now watching Mayor Chase. Will he veto that rotten paving job, or will he endorse it, and go back on the good record he made in the Holly fight?

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. If the U. P. branch of the council are not coerced, why do they vote with the notorious jobbers against the expressed wishes of their constituents.

MR. ROLLINS, who was nominated by the republican caucus of the New Hampshire legislature, has been obliged to withdraw from the senatorial race. A caucus nomination within the last year seems to have been equivalent to a defeat.

It doesn't require direct pressure from high Union Pacific officials to get unanimous action from employes in the public service. A hint of removal or promotion generally does the business. In fact bright prospects of advancement tempt more men than a downright purchase with money.

PRE-EMPTORS and homesteaders are pouring into Northern Nebraska and lands in the valley of the Elkhorn are commanding a handsome premium over the prices of last year. With the advertising received by the South Platte country the population of Northern Nebraska would be double what it is to-day and the returns from her harvest fields would stand comparison with those of the best favored counties in the state.

The alleys are shortly to be paved but what good will result from the paving of the alleys if the filth which blocks up half a dozen of our Omaha alleys is allowed by the city marshal to accumulate in defiance of the law and to the standing menace of the public health. Dirt and disease go hand in hand. If Omaha escapes an epidemic of typhoid fever this summer, it will not be owing to the energy of the city authorities.

IS OMAHA to be governed according to the wishes of her taxpayers or in accordance with the demands of the pockets of her councilmen? This is the question which is brought home to our people by the scandalous defiance of public sentiment in the sandstone paving job which has been repudiated by nearly every property owner in the district through which Bill Stout and the Union Pacific propose to lay their seamy and skaly material.

This capital job begotten by legislative bribery and corrupt trading has gone through another stage of recalcitancy that should make honest republicans hang their heads with shame.

Every well informed person was aware that Boss Stout was bound to secure the contract for the capitol building. He had the bill drawn to put competition out of question. But the executive officers charged with the responsibility of the letting were in honor and duty bound to have some decent regard for the interests of the state. How did they discharge that duty? Only two bids were presented, one by W. H. B. Stout and the other by Robert Silver.

Stout's bid was \$41,000 higher than that of Silver but the contract was awarded to Stout. In other words \$41,000 have been filched from the taxpayers of Nebraska by collusion between a majority of the board of public works and the contractor. And this high handed piece of jobbery was done under the most flimsy pretext and in the face of the remonstrance of Treasurer Sturlevant. The republican members of the board constituting the majority, have given as their only reason for their action that Mr. Silver was unable to satisfy them that he owned or controlled the quarries from which the building stone was to be supplied.

Now there is no doubt that Mr. Stout would have supplied Mr. Silver or any other contractor with all the stone he needed to complete the building—if no other quarries could supply it. The main question and the only question for the board was whether Mr. Silver was ready to furnish a satisfactory bond as a guaranty. Mr. Silver offered a \$300,000 bond, with which no fault seems to have been found. In any event Messrs. Kendall and Roggen lay themselves liable to grave charges of corrupt partiality by their undue haste and refusal to heed Mr. Sturlevant's appeal on behalf of the taxpayers—for further deliberation.

PRACTICAL EDUCATION AND THE CLASSICS.

The attack of Mr. Charles Francis Adams, jr., upon the abuses of a classical education has fallen like a bombshell in educational circles. Mr. Adams is himself the product of the training which he denounces. As a graduate of the Boston Latin school and of Harvard university, an educated scholar and a practical man of business, his views upon the too exclusive devotion to the ancient classics are entitled to all the consideration which they have received. The comments of the press and the criticisms of prominent educationalists show that Mr. Adams has a large following and that the ring of his vigorous blows against what he calls a college fetish are awakening the echoes throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The point made by Mr. Adams is, that the college does not fit its students to grapple successfully with the practical exigencies of the modern world. And it fails because it requires its students to spend three quarters of their time during the best years of life on a study of dead languages, which are of little practical use to living men in this living world. They are of vastly less value to any man of affairs than German or French or Spanish; indeed, the latter are tools without which a man is poorly equipped for the business of life. Furthermore, the knowledge of Greek and Latin obtained in a college course is necessarily superficial. The students learn to pass examinations. They know little of the nature of history, the characteristics of the language they are supposed to have mastered, and they forget most of that in a few years. He confessed that he had forgotten even the letters of the Greek alphabet. He does not believe that among the educated classes of this country and Europe one man in a hundred is sufficiently familiar with the dead languages to tell whether a given composition is a masterpiece or not. And to acquire this superficial knowledge of languages of little practical use, our colleges compel their students to sacrifice the best part of their life.

Of his own experience Mr. Adams speaks in strong language. He denounces the classical discipline of Harvard thirty years ago as the discipline of the treadmill. "I do not think it was any higher or any more intelligent. So much for what my Alma Mater gave me. In those of repeating-rites, she sent me and my classmates out into the strife equipped with shields and swords and javelins. We were to grapple with living questions through the medium of dead languages. But on this point I do not like publicity to tell the whole of my own experience. It has been too bitter, too humiliating, I have not been the equal of my peers. It was the world's congress of to-day, and Latin and Greek were not legal-tender there." Mr. Adams' oration is a masterly arraignment of a system that does not educate, but immolates. The great aim of our colleges should be to fit students for the work of the world, to train them for the duties of life, to equip them for a campaign in which knowledge and skill in using it are all conquering weapons. The business of the modern world requires a knowledge of modern languages. The increase of foreign immigration and of foreign travel every year creates a new demand for acquaintance with modern European tongues.

But even the knowledge of language, the art of expression, is of far less value and importance than a knowledge of the great facts and forces of life and the globe on which we live. Science to-day holds the key of the most important treasures of knowledge. The secrets of power, of progress, of comfort, of health of the elements that make man superior to the brute force of the globe are locked in her vaults. A century ago there were no sciences worthy of the name. Fifty years ago one professor could teach all that was known and all that was guessed at in the whole circle of other sciences. Now very few men can keep pace with the discoveries in any single group of the whole number. And it is out of these that have sprung the arts and inventions which glorify modern life, enhance the comfort of the people and make the future glow with transcendent promise. No college is worthy the name it bears and the place it claims, which does not to-day in its general course relegate the study of the classics to the rear and give its students a thorough, a scientific and a practical training.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

French aggression in Africa, joined to the insolence of a French naval commander has created an excitement in England, which on Tuesday wore a warlike aspect in the house of commons. From the statements of Mr. Gladstone it appears that the occupation of Tamatave, Madagascar, was accompanied by violence and insults offered to the British residents and her majesty's consul. British residents had their houses searched and were placed under guard, and American missionaries were treated with insolence in their school buildings. The announcement of Mr. Gladstone was greeted with much excitement in the commons and a demand for explanations has been made upon the French government which, it is believed, will be promptly met by the recall of the offending naval officer. Minister Ferry, in an interview, declares that Admiral Pierre could not have been insane enough to have insulted the British flag and expressed himself most cordially in favor of forgetting the matter to the bottom. In the house of lords on Thursday Lord Granville stated that he had every reason to believe that France intended to give ample satisfaction for the unauthorized acts of her agents. During the past week the commons have been engaged in disposing of a large amount of minor business, but none of the weightier government measures have been taken up. The woman suffrage resolution was defeated by a close vote—130 to 114—the channel tunnel scheme has been permanently shelved, and the ministerial negotiations in reference to the construction of a new Suez canal have resulted in an assurance of the early beginning of that project under British control. The incident of the week, next to the Madagascar affair, was the receipt of a letter from Bradlaugh announcing his intention of again presenting himself to take the oath at the bar of the house of commons. This communication was met by a resolution of the house forbidding Mr. Bradlaugh admission to the houses at Westminster until he had agreed not to disturb their proceedings. Mr. Gladstone reminding parliament that on May 24 they had rejected a plan which would have met the difficulty. The general political outlook continues hazy, with the ministry still aimlessly drifting with the current.

SWINDLES AND SWINDELERS.

The defeat of the Holly waterworks proposition when it was first submitted to the people of Omaha, caused the loss of a million dollars in this city in cash or its equivalent. It cost one outside ring or company organized to defeat it the loss of the water franchise or contract which they coveted, and the allotment of it to a third, which proved to be such a colossal swindle that it has taken years of time and scores of thousands of dollars in the hands of the good men of the company to repair it, and the end is not yet. But what else? A howling derival, who gabbles about the "Holly swindle," which was according to level headed MARTIN DUNHAM, the best proposition that this city ever saw, compels the question: What kind of waterworks on the direct pressure plan has Omaha to-day?—Herald. A million dollars lost on water works that did not cost half that sum—both And who lost that million dollars? Was it the gang of swindlers and thieves that consorted with Cushing in the attempt to bribe the city council, fire department chief and police judge? Does not Cushing's letter book brand Dr. Miller and every man connected with that infamous gang as a set of scoundrels that would be banished from any decent community. And level headed Martin Dunham who votes to rob his neighbors and friends by imposing a tax for a worthless

issue looming in English politics at present is not the strength of Liberal or Conservative parties, but the possibility that the Irish party will sweep every seat in Ireland but a dozen or so, and hold the balance of power between the two opposing parties in parliament. In 1874, Mr. Disraeli secured a majority over all; in 1880, Mr. Gladstone; but if Mr. Parnell has ninety seats behind him after the next general election, and the Monaghan result looks like this, it is hard to see how a majority over all can be secured by Conservative or Liberal. Mr. Gladstone admits that the government sees the necessity of some amendment to the Irish land act and intimates that they will consider the subject when the time serves, but meanwhile the lords, through their committee, pronounce the whole act a failure, and the English landlords seem to be massing their forces to block further legislation. The question of the abolition of a hereditary legislative peerage will be pushed to the front by this obstructionist attitude of the lords, just as the opposition of the bishops to the late act permitting marriage with a deceased wife's sister has started a movement in favor of the abolition of the right of the bishops to vote. The agitation meets with such favor that the bishops are frightened. It is evident that they are not in favor with the people as legislators. It indicates a growing feeling against them as high-salaried officers of the state. It is but the beginning of the end—disestablishment. The Episcopal bishops and clergy will have to depend for their support on the voluntary contributions of their congregations within the next ten years.

Count de Chambord, the last of the Bourbons, still lingers on his death bed at Frohsdorf. The frequent reports that his end was approaching have fitted France from his death. It is generally admitted that the Count de Paris, son of Louis Philippe, will assume the standard of the Legitimists as a claimant for a constitutional monarchy, but there are rumors that Prince Jerome Napoleon will issue a manifesto asserting his claims to the imperial throne as the nephew of his uncle and the successor of Napoleon III. From Tonquin comes news of the arrival of the French reinforcements and the entire province is in a state of anarchy. The campaign to subdue the country will begin at once and France will occupy the entire Tonquin delta. The ministry of foreign affairs has informed the French consuls of the Pacific relations to be maintained with China. But China's objection will not stop the course of France, who is powerful enough to execute her projects in regard to Tonquin without waging war with China. France demands of China not to embarrass her action. She proposed subsequently to conclude a treaty with China with a view of insuring respect for their respective frontiers. If China, contrary to indications, should follow dissonant advice, the chambers will not hesitate energetically to defend the interests of the country. In reference to the reports of French insults to the English in Madagascar the ministry has led investigation. It is believed that the rumors have been greatly exaggerated. The French chamber of deputies have refused to entertain a motion to grant amnesty to Louise Michel and the Mont-cenau des Mines rioters.

The city tax levy for 1883, as ordered by the council, amounts 34 mills, of which 12 mills are credited to the general fund, 4 to the water rent fund, 14 for the sewer fund, 3 for the judgment fund, 21 for the school fund, 2 mills for the library fund, 5 mills for the fire and police fund and 3 mills for the curb, gutter and pavement fund. On an equalized assessment 18 mills would have brought in the same revenue.

James Carey has been driven out of Ireland, not by the men he betrayed, but by the Government which has no further use for him there, and has no wish to see him assassinated. The Irish informer is either a monster of what is called "nerve," or he is in the hands of an intriguing agent. He declined the offer of the English government to send him to some foreign country, and asked only to be allowed to go about his business in Dublin like other citizens. England's fear that his enemies would put him out of the way if they got a chance met with a response like that of the lying duelist, who, being exhorted to renounce and forgive his enemies, replied that he had none; he had killed them all. James Carey could not be persuaded to leave the scene of his crimes and treachery, but was finally turned out.

The cholera bulletins show no signs of the abatement of the terrible scourge in Egypt. Thursday there were 156 deaths at five different localities, the large majority occurring at Damietta and Mansurah—ninety-six at the former town and forty-eight at the latter. Friday there were 169 deaths. Damietta fell off eight, but Mansurah increased sixteen, while deaths occurred in 4 new places, Samakout, thus indicating that the disease is working toward Cairo. Meanwhile it has broken out at Swatow in China and is raging violently, thus the germs of the old epidemic last year still linger in that part of the world. This makes a new point of attack, and one which must be guarded against, not only to prevent it from acting as a feeder to Egypt but from approaching Europe from some new quarter. There now seems to be little hope that Alexandria will be spared as death have occurred there during the week. The Khedive himself has taken the alarm and has made his preparations to fly to Naples, and is remaining at his post to co-operate with the English in caring for his people. Poor Egypt seems to be doubly afflicted; first by a cruel war and then by the still more cruel pestilence.

France is in arms in four quarters of the globe—Tunis, Madagascar, Tonquin and the Congo. No war seems aimed at the new energy of a race which feels able to conquer, but has never been able to colonize. Madagascar alone seems likely to fall a prey to French annexation. With the Hova government compelled to sue for peace, the French, even if they only occupy a strip of the coast, will remain the paramount power in the island.

England has begun in a small way the work of debt redemption, and the result is that the three per cent stand relatively five per cent near the two and a half per cent than they otherwise would, although the great bulk of the three per cent are absolutely secure from disturbance under the present plan of redemption, by absorbing certain annuities as the result. It is clear that if the English exchequer chose it could refund at two and a half per cent, a change which would lift an enormous load of taxation and appreciate the current price of securities almost as much here as in England.

The North German Gazette, referring to Cardinal Jacobini's latest letter to the Prussian government, says: Diplomats at the Vatican are trying to show that the new church bill is of little value to the Curia. The Prussian government expects the Vatican to make the next advances. If none are made, Prussia will continue her present course of independent legislation as far as feasible and requisite. It would have been better and more skillful on the part of the Curia's diplomatists

if the note had been left unwritten. There existed at the time no absolute necessity for its dispatch. The arrogant grumblings and criticisms contained therein afford a fresh proof that it will be impossible to satisfy the demands of the Curia, and it will only result in preventing Prussia from making further conciliatory advances.

The postal savings bank system has proved very successful in India, although it has only been in operation a little over a year. The banks were established over portions of India April 1, 1882, and the system will be extended over the whole Indian empire as soon as arrangements can be perfected with the banks of Bengal and Bombay, which have hitherto held monopolies. During the first nine months of the system, 31,698 accounts were opened, of which 28,770 were by natives. On December 31, 1882, the balance on deposit amounted to \$1,039,380. Any one may deposit a sum from four cents or a multiple of four, provided no one exceeds \$250 in one year, and a depositor can draw from his deposit any day, provided he gives at least three days notice. The interest is at present about 3 per cent for every full sum of 5 rupees, and on March 31st the interest is added to the principal. Twelve per cent is usually called very low interest, and the success of the postal savings bank system is a very good showing for India and her conservative people.

For taking care of the poor Berlin pays annually \$1,023,000, an amount which has doubled within the last ten years. There are 14,234 persons receiving regular support; \$27,500 is paid out for fuel and \$5700 for raising potatoes. Although the state hospitals grant annually 100,000 so-called free days to the city, the latter has still to pay \$210,000 for medical attention, etc., for the indigent population.

IMPETUES.

Standing in the front pew don't help a man's record in the book of life. The Burlington Free Press defines a "Sabbath school" as a place where the children of the poor and the nearest good fishing ground. "The work that I am compelled to perform," said a dissatisfied minister during a sermon, "would kill a nuke, and I don't believe that I can stand it." A religious exchange tells a story of a convert employed by a Baptist church, who lost his position by playing the well-known melody, "Full for the Shore," at the baptism of a number of converts.

A Philadelphia clergyman preached on the text "Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God," and illustrated it with "We pray to the Lord to give us health, and tempt us with fifty streets, sewer gas, and bad water." An exchange thinks it is "a strange Providence that blows down church steeples and lets the shot tower stand." Not so strange when you reflect that a shot tower is made for use and a church steeple for ornament.—Norristown Herald.

"My friend, are you prepared to die?" said a minister in a sermon to a gentleman who sat next to him in a horse car. "Good gracious, no!" exclaimed the gentleman, terribly alarmed. "My policy ran out last Monday, and I am now on my way to have it renewed, and, jumping up, he violently pulled the bell-rings."

Talmage repeats the old idea against a quarter choir by saying: "When I hear that four angels are doing all the singing for Heaven I'll permit four people to do the singing for my congregation." Talmage will hear that as soon as anybody hears that one preacher is doing all the praying and shouting for Heaven, as Talmage does for his tabernacle.

Church services in Arkansas are occasionally preceded by a noisy and mortally wounding of the inhabitants of that region. Last Sunday at New Hope church in that state, just before the opening services, one member of the congregation accused another of circulating bad reports about him, and, notwithstanding the charge was denied, the accused fell upon the accused with a knife and mortally wounded him, and then, flourishing the bloody knife, defied arrest and escaped. The next time we hear of him he will probably be the central figure in a necktie social.

SINGULARITIES.

Florida turtles lay 100 eggs a day, and do not cackle a bit about it. Charles Hendrick, of Lexington, N. C., shot an eagle which had black back, wings and tail, while its neck and breast were as white as snow. It measured seven feet from tip to tip.

William Morshimer, a one-handed compositor in the office of the Carbon Advertiser (Pa.) fastens his stick diagonally across the "g" box, and sets, corrects, and distributes eight thousand and one of his kind each day.

T. D. Jones, of Durham, N. C., has in his possession a long black whisky bottle out of which General Johnson and Sherman took their last drink after signing the articles of the surrender on the 26th of April, 1865. This bottle was left with Mrs. Bennett, who lives four miles east of Durham, where Johnson surrendered.

Iacopo possesses a curiosity in the person of a blind Mexican, twenty-two years of age, who lost his sight when one year old by small-pox, which completely destroyed the pupils of both eyes, leaving him totally blind. To-day he is used by many who know him as a messenger boy, being able to go to almost any house in the city without assistance, even of a walking stick, and is recognized as one of the best riders in town.

A curious experiment was made recently at Paris to determine the power of a crocodile's jaw. The animal was fixed on a table with the upper jaw connected with a dynamometer. An electric shock caused him to give a sudden snap. Three hundred and eighty pounds was marked on the instrument. It was calculated that the contractile force of the muscles causing the movement was 1,540 pounds. The muscle of an ordinary sporting dog had 300 pounds of contractile force.

Quite a curiosity is on exhibition in Davenport, Iowa. In May, 1882, Simon Snyder, while living in Ohio, injured his hand so that amputation was necessary. The hand was buried. Two weeks after, over the place of burial, was found a fungus plant, the exact shape of the severed hand; the forefinger shorter than it should be. Mr. Snyder lost his finger two years before the amputation. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, upon their removal to Iowa, brought the fungus preserved in alcohol.

Sherman W. Platt, of Newtown, Conn., a farmer, about 35, fell into a deep sleep in his bed just before Christmas, and lay in it without waking, till the last of January. Toward spring he manifested an inclination to move, but did not open his eyes, and during three months he scarcely enough to sustain life. In March he fully succeeded in getting him dressed, and in April he walked a little, but during all this time he never spoke. He was cared for like an infant. After a while he scouted his way to the pantry, and now he moves from his chair to the cupboard shelves, sleeping between his meals. His lethargy has lasted 194 days.

THE GREAT BERMAN REMEDY FOR PAIN.

Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Lumbago, Backache, Headache, Neuritis, Migraine, Swelling, Sprains, Strains, Burns, Scalds, Bruises, Frost Bites, and all other painful affections. It is the best and cheapest food for stock of any kind. One pound is equal to three pounds of corn, stock fed with Ground Oil Cake in the Fall and Winter, instead of running down, will increase in weight and be in good marketable condition in the spring. Hairdressers, as well as others, who use it can testify to the merits. Try it and judge for yourselves. Price \$25.00 per ton; no charge for sacks. Address, WOODMAN LINED OIL COMPANY, Omaha, Neb.

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